

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ARA-10 SIL-01 LAB-04 IO-13  
AID-05 /110 W  
-----130553 021719Z /44

R 300719Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7594  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA  
CINCPAC  
CINCUSNAVEUR  
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0731

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, MARR, EFIN, ECON, PINS, FR, MP, MA, CU  
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - JUNE 30, 1978 - SUMMARY

REF: PORT LOUIS 0711 (DTG 231149Z JUN 78)  
PORT LOUIS A-53, JUNE 30, 1978

1. DECORUM WAS RESTORED TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
AFTER ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE EXCHANGE OF HARSH LANGUAGE  
LAST WEEK (REFTEL) APOLOGIZED TO THE HOUSE AND THE  
DEPUTY SPEAKER AS WELL AS EACH OTHER. IN THE CONTINUING  
DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET, FOREIGN MINISTER WALTER  
DENIED THERE IS ANY PLAN TO SEEK A SECURITY PACT WITH FRANCE  
BUT HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT CAN CALL ON ITS FRIENDS FOR HELP  
IF IT IS THREATENED WITH OVERTHROW BY MEANS OF A  
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COUP. WALTER AND LABOR MINISTER MOHAMED OPENLY INVITED  
MUSLIM MEMBERS OF THE MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT (MMM)  
OPPOSITION TO DEFECT TO THE GOVERNMENT SIDE, ESPECIALLY THOSE  
WHO ARE NOT MARXISTS.

2. IN THE COURSE OF SUMMING UP THE DEBATES, PRIME  
MINISTER RAMGOOLAM CHARGED THAT SOME MMM PEOPLE HAVE

BEEN TRAINED AS GUERRILLAS IN CERTAIN PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND OTHERS ARE TO RECEIVE SIMILAR TRAINING FROM CUBAN EXPERTS IN MADAGASCAR. MMM LEADERS JUGNAUTH AND BERENGER VEHEMENTLY DENIED THIS CHARGE, AND CHALLENGED THE P.M. TO PROVIDE PROOF. JUGNAUTH SAID HE WOULD RESIGN FROM THE MMM IF CONVINCING PROOF WERE OFFERED. AT THE SAME TIME BERENGER REVEALED THAT THE MMM WILL NOT BE SENDING A DELEGATION TO THE UPCOMING YOUTH FESTIVAL IN HAVANA (AS HAD BEEN RUMORED) BECAUSE THE MMM "DISAGREES WITH THE POLICIES OF CUBA." WHILE DEFENDING THE P.M.'S BRITISH SECURITY ADVISER AGAINST AN ATTACK BY THE OPPOSITION, WALTER CLAIMED HE HAD COUNTERED THREE ATTEMPTED COUPS D'ETAT, COMMENTING THAT THAT IS WHY THE MMM DOESN'T LIKE THE ADVISER.

3. THE BOODHOO GROUP OF LABOR PARTY DISSIDENTS CONTINUE TO CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS GOVERNMENT, BUT THEIR BEHAVIOR IN THE ASSEMBLY INDICATES THEY WILL ABSTAIN RATHER THAN VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT ON BUDGET ITEMS THEY DON'T LIKE. ONE OF THEIR NUMBER RESIGNED AS A PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO LEAVE HIMSELF FREE TO VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. THE LABOR PARTY MADE A GAIN THIS WEEK, HOWEVER, WHEN IT WAS REPORTED THAT INDEPENDENT DEPUTY HARRIS RAMPHUL, FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE MMM WHO WAS EXPELLED FOR INDISCIPLINE, HAS APPLIED TO JOIN THE LABOR PARTY, IF CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS GOES THROUGH, THE GOVERNMENT'S MAJORITY IN THE ASSEMBLY WILL RISE TO SIX SEATS, 38 TO 32. RAMPHUL TOOK HIS DECISION PARTLY AS A REACTION TO RENE'S INSTALLATION OF A SINGLE PARTY SYSTEM IN THE SEYCHELLES, A MOVE THAT RAMPHUL THINKS THE MMM WOULD COPY HERE.

4. BOTH SIDES LAUNCHED THEIR CAMPAIGNS FOR THE IMPORTANT MUNICIPAL BY-ELECTION TO BE HELD JULY 16 IN VACOAS. BOTH SIDES ARE TRYING TO APPEAL TO THE "YOUTH VOTE" BY RUNNING CANDIDATES IN THEIR EARLY TWENTIES OR THIRTIES. THE MMM IS TRYING TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM THE SOVIET-CUBAN THRUST INTO AFRICA, WHICH IT APPARENTLY BELIEVES HAS COST IT SUPPORT IN THE ELECTORATE. KEELEY

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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